A ſhort Prayer *for* Children *and* Servants.

EVer-living and moſt Glorious God, Father, Son and Holy-Ghoſt! Infinite is thy Power, thy Wiſdom and thy Goodneſs! Thou art the Maker of all the World, the Redeemer of loſt and ſinful Man, and the Sanctifier of the Elect! Thou haſt made me a living reaſonable Soul, placed a while in this Fleſh and World to Know, and Love, and ſerve thee my Creator, with all my Heart and Mind, and Strength, that I might obtain the Reward of the heavenly Glory. This ſhould have been the greateſt care, and buſineſs, and pleaſure of all my Life: I was bound to it by thy Law: I was invited by thy Mercy. And in my Baptiſm I was devoted to this holy life, by a ſolemn Covenant and Vow! But alas, I have proved too unfaithful to that Covenant: I have forgotten and neglected the God, the Saviour, and the Sanctifier, to whom I was engaged: And have too much ſerved the Devil, the World and the Fleſh, which I renounced: I was born in ſin, and ſinfully I have lived. I have been too careleſs of my Immortal Soul, and of the great work for which I was created and redeemed; I have ſpent much of my precious time in vanity, in minding and pleaſing this corruptible Fleſh; And I have hardned my heart againſt thoſe Inſtructions, by which thy Spirit, and my Teachers, and my own Conſcience, did call upon me to repent and turn to thee.

And now, Lord, my convinced Soul doth confeſs, that I have deſerved to be forſaken by thee, and given over to my luſt and folly, and to be caſt out of thy glorious Preſence into Damnation. But ſeeing thou haſt given a Saviour to the World, and made a pardoning and gracious Law, promiſing forgiveneſs and ſalvation through his Merits, to every true penitent Believer, I thankfully accept the mercy of thy Covenant in Chriſt; I humbly confeſs my ſin and guilti-

neſs: I caſt my miſerable Soul upon thy Grace, and the Merits, and Sacrifice and Interceſſion of my Saviour. O pardon all the ſins of my corrupted heart and life; And as a Reconciled Father take me to be thy Child; And give me thy renewing Spirit, to be in me a Principle of holy Life, and Light and Love, and thy Seal and Witneſs that I am thine; let him quicken my dead and hardned heart; let him enlighten my dark unbelieving Mind, by clearer knowledge and firm belief; let him turn my will to the ready Obedience of thy holy Will; let him reveal to my Soul the wonders of thy love in Chriſt, and fill it with love to Thee and my Redeemer, and to all thy holy word and works; till all my ſinful carnal love be quenched in me, and my ſinful pleaſures turned into a ſweet Delight, in God; give me ſelf-denial, humility and lowlineſs, and ſave me from the great and hateful ſins of Selfiſhneſs, Worldlineſs and Pride. O ſet my Heart upon the Heavenly Glory, where I hope e're long to live with Chriſt and all his holy Ones, in the joyful ſight and love and praiſe of Thee the God of love for ever. Deny me not any of thoſe helps and mercies, which are needful to my Sanctification and Salvation. And cauſe me to live in a continual readineſs, for a ſafe and comfortable Death: For what would it profit me to win all the World, and loſe my Soul, my Saviour, and my God?

Additions for Children.

Let thy Bleſſing be upon my Parents and Governours; Cauſe them to inſtruct and Educate me in thy fear, and cauſe me with thankfulneſs to receive their Inſtructions; and to love, honour and obey them, in Obedience to

Additions for Servants.

And as thou haſt made me a Servant, make me conſcionable and faithful, in my place and truſt, and careful of my Maſters Goods and Buſineſs, as I would be if it were my own. Make me ſubmiſſive and obedient to my Go-

to thee. Keep me from the ſnares of Evil Company, Temptations, and Youthful Pleaſures; and let me be a Companion of them that fear thee. Let my daily delight be to Meditate on thy Law; and let me never have the mark of the Ungodly, to be a Lover of Pleaſures more than of God. Furniſh my Youth with thoſe Treaſures of Wiſdom and Holineſs, which may be daily increaſed and uſed to thy Glory. Governours; Keep me from ſelf-will and pride, from murmuring and unreverent ſpeeches, from falſhood, ſlothfulneſs and all deceit: That I might not be an eye-ſervant, pleaſing my luſt and fleſhly appetite; but may chearfully and willingly do my duty, as believing that thou art the revenger of all unfaithfulneſs; and may do my ſervice not only as unto man but as to the Lord, expecting from thee my chief Reward.

All this I beg and hope for, on the account of the Merits and Interceſſion of Jeſus Chriſt, concluding in the words which he hath trught us, *Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven, Give us this day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that Treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into Temptation; But deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory, for ever,* Amen.

A plain and ſhort Prayer *for* Families, *for* Morning *and* Evening.

ALmighty, All-ſeeing and moſt Gracious God the World and all therein is made, maintained and ordered by thee: Thou art every where preſent being more than the ſoul of all the World. Though thou art revealed in thy Glory to thoſe only that are in Heaven, thy Grace is ſtill at work on Earth to prepare men for that Glory: Thou madeſt us not as the

Beasts that perish, but with reasonable immortal Souls to know and seek, and serve thee here, and then to live with all the blessed, in the everlasting sight of thy Heavenly Glory, and the Pleasures of thy perfect Love, and Praise. But we are ashamed to think how foolishly and sinfully we have forgotten and neglected our God and our Souls, and our hopes of blessed Immortality, and have overmuch minded the things of this visible transitory World, and the Prosperity and Pleasure of this corruptible flesh, which we know must turn to rottenness and dust. Thou gavest us a Law which was just and good, to guide us in the only way to life, and when by sin we had undone our selves, thou gavest us a Saviour, even thy eternal Word made man, who by his holy life and bitter sufferings reconciled us to thee, and both purchased Salvation for us, and revealed it to us, better than an Angel from Heaven could have done, if thou hadst sent him to us sinners on such a message: But alas how light have we set by our Redeemer! And by all that Love which thou hast manifested by him, and how little have we studied and understood, and less obeyed that Covenant of Grace, which thou hast made by him to lost mankind?

But O God be merciful to us vile and miserable sinners! Forgive the sins of our natural pravity and the follies of our youth, and all the ignorance, negligence, omissions and commissions of our lives: And give us true Repentance for them, or else we know that thou wilt not forgive them. Our life is but as a shadow that passeth away, and it is but as a moment till we must leave this world, and appear before thee to give up our account, and to speed for ever as here we have prepared. Should we die before thou hast turned our hearts from this sinful flesh and world to thee by true Faith and Repentance, we shall be lost for evermore. O woe to us that ever we were born, if thou forgive not our sins, and make

us

is not holy before this ſhort uncertain life be at an
nd: Had we all the riches and pleaſures of this world,
hey would ſhortly leave us in the greater ſorrows.
We know that all our life is but the time which thy
nercy allotteth us to prepare for death: Therefore
we ſhould not put off our repentance and preparation
o a ſick bed: But now Lord, as if it were our laſt
nd dying words, we earneſtly beg thy pardoning
nd ſanctifying Grace through the merits and inter-
ceſſion of our Redeemer: O thou that haſt pitied
nd ſaved ſo many millions of miſerable ſinners, pity
nd ſave us alſo, that we may glorifie thy Grace for
ever; ſurely thou delighteſt not in the death of
inners, but rather that they return and live: Hadſt
hou been unwilling to ſhew mercy, thou wouldſt not
ave ranſomed us by ſo precious a price, and ſtill
ntreat us to be reconciled unto thee: We have no
auſe to diſtruſt thy Truth or Goodneſs; but we are
fraid leſt unbelief, and pride, and hypocriſie, and a
worldly fleſhly mind, ſhould be our ruine. O ſave
us from Satan, and this tempting world, but eſpecially
from our ſelves: Teach us to deny all ungodlineſs
and fleſhly luſts, and to live ſoberly, righteouſly and
godly in this World. Let it be our chiefeſt daily
work to pleaſe thee, and to lay up a treaſure in Hea-
ven, and to make ſure of a bleſſed life with Chriſt,
and quietly to truſt thee with ſoul and body. Make
us faithful in our callings, and our duties to one
another, and to all men, to our ſuperiours, equals
and inferiours: Bleſs the King, and all in Authority,
that we may live a quiet and peaceable life in all
godlineſs and honeſty: Give wiſe, holy, and peace-
able Paſtors to all the Churches of Chriſt, and holy
and peaceable minds to the People: Convert the
Heathen and Infidel Nations of the world: And cauſe
us, and all thy people to ſeek firſt the Hallowing of
thy name, the coming of thy Kingdom, the doing of
thy will on Earth as it is done in Heaven: Give us

our daily bread, even all things neceſſary to life and godlineſs, and let us be therewith content. Forgive us our daily ſins, and let thy love and mercy conſtrain us to love thee above all; and for thy ſake to love our Neighbours as our ſelves, and in all our dealings, to do juſtly and mercifully, as we would have others do by us. Keep us from hurtful temptations, from ſin, and from thy judgments, and from the malice of our ſpiritual and corporal enemies: And let all our Thoughts, Affections, Paſſions, Words and Actions, be governed by thy Word and Spirit to thy Glory; Make all our Religion and Obedience pleaſant to us; and let our ſouls be ſo delighted in the praiſe of thy Kingdom, thy Power and thy Glory, that in may ſecure and ſweeten our labour by day, and our reſt by night, and keep us in a longing and joyful hope of the heavenly Glory; And let the Grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and the Love of God our Father, and the Communion of the holy Spirit be with us now and for ever, *Amen.*

POEMS

POEMS

UPON

CHRISTMAS-DAY.

By the late Lord Chief-Juſtice *Hale.*

I.

ALmighty God, when he had rais'd the Frame
Of Heaven and Earth, and furniſhed the ſame
With works of equal wonder, framed then
A piece of greater Excellence, call'd Man:
Gave him a comprehenſive Soul, that ſoar'd
Above the Creatures, and beheld their Lord;
Inſcrib'd him with his Image, and did fill
The compaſs of his Intellect and Will,
With Truth and Good; gave him the Cuſtody
Of his own Bliſs and Immortality.
And juſtly now his Soveraign might demand,
Subjection and Obedience at his hand:
Were only Being given, 'twere but right
His Debt of Duty ſhould be infinite:
But here was more, a ſuper-added dreſs
Of Life, Perfection, and Happineſs.
Yet this great King, for an Experiment
Of Man's deſerv'd Allegiance, *is content*
To uſe an eaſie Precept, ſuch as ſtood
Both with his Creatures Duty and his Good;
Forbids one Fruit, on pain of death, and gives
Freely the reſt which he might eat and live.

But Man Rebels, *and for one taſt doth chooſe,*
His Life, his God, his Innocence to looſe.
And now death-ſtricken, like a wounded Deer,
Strictly purſu'd by Guilt, and Shame, and Fear,
He ſeeks to loſe himſelf; from God he flies,
And takes a Wilderneſs of Miſeries;
A Land of new tranſgreſſions, where his Curſe
Is cloſer bound, his Nature growing worſe.
And whiles in this condition Man-kind lay,
A man ſhould think his injur'd God ſhould ſay,
There lies Accurſed Man, and let him lie
Intangled in that Web of Miſery,
Which his own Sin hath ſpun; I muſt be True
And Juſt. Unthankful Man, thou haſt thy due.
But 'twas not ſo. Though Man the Maſtery,
With his Creator's Power and Will, dares try;
And being over-matcht with Power, diſdains
To ſeek a Pardon from his Soveraign;
The Great and Glorious God, the Mighty King
Of Heaven and Earth, deſpis'd by ſuch a thing
As man, a Worm of his own making, breaks
The rules of Greatneſs, and his Creature ſeeks,
His froward Creature; not in ſuch a way
As once he did in the cool of that day,
Wherein Man ſinn'd, and hid; ſuch Majeſty
Had been too great for Man's neceſſity:
But the Eternal Son of God, *the Word,*
By which all things were made, the Mighty Lord,
Aſſumes our Fleſh, *and under that he lays,*
And hides his Greatneſs, and thoſe Glorious Rayes
Of Majeſty, which had been over bright,
And too reſplendent for poor Mortals ſight;
And under this diſguiſe, the King of Kings,
The Meſſage of his Fathers Mercy brings;
Solicits Man's return; pays the Price
Of his Tranſgreſſion by the Sacrifice
Of his own Soul; and undertakes to cure
Their Sins, their Peace and Pardon to procure;

To

To conquer Death for him; and more than this,
To ſettle him in Everlaſting Bliſs.
And now, O Man, could this exceſs of Love,
Thy Thankfulneſs to ſuch a height improve,
That it could fire thy Soul into one flame
Of Love, to only him that bought the ſame
At ſuch a rate, yet ſtill it were too ſmall
To recompenſe thy Saviours Love withal;
Once did he give thee Being from the duſt,
And for that only Being, 'twere but juſt
To pay thy utmoſt ſelf: But when once more
Thy Being, and thy Bliſs he did reſtore
By ſuch a means as this, it doth bereave
Thy Soul of hopes of recompence, and leaves
Thy Soul inſolvent. Twice to him this day
Thou ow'ſt thy ſelf, yet but One ſelf canſt pay.

II.

The Prince of Darkneſs, *fleſht with Victory*
In our firſt Parents firſt Apoſtacy,
Uſurpt a Lawleſs Soveraignty on Man,
Revolted thus from his firſt Soveraign:
And though by that Apoſtacy he found,
Under the chains of death his Vaſſal bound,
Yet to ſecure his Empire, he o're-ſpread
The World with Darkneſs, and thereby did lead
His Captives as he pleaſed: Thus he bears
His Rule uſurped, near four thouſand years;
Except ſome ſmall confin'd Plantation,
Within a Family or Nation.
But now to put a period to this Reign
Of this Uſurper, and reduce again,
Man to his Juſt Subjection, 'tis decreed
That Man from this Subjection ſhall be Freed;
And this not by the abſolute Command
Of an immediate Power; nor ſhall the Bands

Of Angels Glorious Hoſts ingaged be,
To reſcue Man from this Captivity:
But God an unſuſpected means *intends,*
And yet moſt ſuitable unto this end.
Sin ſtain'd our Nature, and the Serpents wile,
Did man of Innocence and Life beguile:
By Man his head is cruſh'd; the Lawful Lord
Unto his Creature, Man to his Life reſtor'd;
A Virgins Son *is Born: This Riſing Sun,*
The Worlds inthralling darkneſs over-runs;
A Child to us is Born, whoſe Innocence,
Our Natures ſpot and ſtain doth purge and cleanſe:
His Wounds, our Cure; his Bonds, our Liberty;
His Death becomes our Life, our Victory.
And this is He, whoſe Birth we Celebrate,
And from this Day our Happineſs do Date.

FINIS.